GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:382
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2005
SPURIOUS HERBAL PRODUCTS
Solanki Shri Bhupendrasinh Prabhatsinh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the manufacture of spurious herbal products is growing rapidly in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to take concrete steps to check it;

(c) if so, the details of such steps and the time by which such steps are likely to be taken ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI AMBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) No authentic information is available regarding manufacture of spurious herbal products, although existence of spurious Ayurveda, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs have been reported in some parts of the country.

(b) to (d): Section 17 of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act provides for punishment of misbranded, adulterated and spurious drugs. Action against violation of the law is to be taken by the State Drugs Licensing Authorities. On its part, the Central Government has issued instructions and guidelines to follow the prescribed pharmacopoeial standards and comply with the provisions of Good Manufacturing Practices. Financial support has also been provided for strengthening the State Drug Testing Laboratories and enforcement mechanism.